

American Veterinary Medical History Society

“Devoted to the Diffusion of Veterinary History”

INTERIM NEWS & COMMENT

December 2020

Susanne Whitaker and Helen Wojcinski, reporters

CONTENTS:

Status Report on AVMHS's *Guideposts* Book
Upcoming Zoom Session of Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital
Dr. Helen Wojcinski Becomes N&C Reporter
Books for Essay Contest Students
AVMHS Bylaws Review
In Memoria – Drs. WR Pritchard and RR Marshak
Dr. Born's Vintage Item
Narrative Medicine—What Is It?
Meeting and Event Calendar
New AVMHS Members
New Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices
New Books
Recent Journal Articles

Status Report on AVMHS's *Guideposts* Book

During the Society's virtual annual business meeting on July 31, Dr. Susan Aiello (susan@words-world.net) described the AVMHS initiative to produce a small book to provide inspiration and advice from seasoned veterinarians to veterinary students and new graduates. Since then, progress on compiling *Guideposts for Veterinary Professionals*, has continued. All of the manuscripts have been completed and edited, and the page design approved by the editorial team. Along with an extensive paper on Sir William Osler's contributions to comparative and veterinary medicine, compilation of short biographical sketches with representative portraits of 13 significant veterinarians is finished. Designs for illustrations on the 6 section divider pages are being finalized.

In addition, the first of two licensing agreements with Merck have been signed. That will enable Merck to post content from *Guideposts* on the *Merck Veterinary Manual* website and their popular website for veterinary students, where students blog about their experiences in veterinary school. The agreements will also provide funding for the Society to print copies of *Guideposts* for handing out at White Coat Ceremonies beginning this coming spring.

With her significant editorial and production experience, Dr. Aiello continues to work through the myriad of details involved in the book's last stages of preparation, including finalizing the introductory pages and working with the page designer on content arrangement and

cover. Paper and cover stock have been selected, and availability of print copies is anticipated in March 2021. Preparing a press release and contacting colleges for determining the timing and number of copies to be distributed are next.

Upcoming Zoom Session on Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital (FOSVH)

Plans are underway for an AVMHS videoconference on FOSVH presented by Dr. Karen Hassan and Greg Krenzelok, Director, U.S. Army Veterinary Corps Historical Preservation Group, to be announced this spring.



1942 <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~gregkrenzelok/genealogy/veterinary%20corp%20in%20ww1/fort%20ordequestriancenter.html>



2nd Platoon, B Troop, 107th Cavalry, 1942 Fort ORD California.
(Michael E. Capodarco, 107th Horse/Mechanized Cavalry Website)

Fort Ord Station Veterinary Hospital is a former equestrian veterinary complex at [Fort Ord](#) in [Marina, California](#), United States. It was built in 1941 on the assumption that horses and mules would continue playing an important role in the [United States Army](#) for cavalry, field artillery, and supply packing units during [World War II](#). The Station

Veterinary Hospital (SVH) was converted to other purposes when mounted soldiers were discontinued in 1942. The complex is of the nation's last constructed and last surviving equestrian veterinary hospitals of the U.S. Army, symbolizing the final years of horse-dependent warfare and listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#).

Dr. Wojcinski Becomes N&C Reporter

The Society welcomes assistance from Dr. Helen Wojcinski (helenwojcinski@gmail.com) who has volunteered to serve as a reporter for this newsletter.



For a bit of background, a news column was first added to issues of *Veterinary Heritage* by Dr. Phyllis Larsen when she was 1999-2000 AVMHS President. She felt there was an important need to keep members informed about news and perspectives related to veterinary history, the Society, and its members. News items appeared on pages titled, "News & Comment." Soon after, separate issues began to be produced in between semi-annual bulletins, called *Interim News & Comment*. Both continued to be compiled until she passed away in August, 2018. Now, only interim issues are produced.

Secretary-Treasurers, first Dr. Leo Lemonds from Hastings, Nebraska followed by Susanne Whitaker, assisted Dr. Larsen in producing and distributing the interim issues. By default, both reporter and producer functions were assumed by Susanne when Dr. Larsen was no longer able to contribute. So it is a pleasure to receive the help of Dr. Wojcinski in gathering and preparing news items to share with AVMHS members.

Back issues of both "News & Comment" and *Interim News & Comment* from 2013 to date are accessible on the AVMHS website <https://www.avmhs.org/newsletter>

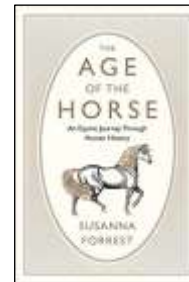
Interest has been expressed in preparing an index of the contents of back issues and will be pursued as time permits.

All members are encouraged submit news that they feel would be of interest to others related to veterinary history

either to Dr. Wojcinski or Susanne Whitaker whenever convenient. Let us know about any history-related projects, events or other activities you are involved with, too.

Books for Essay Contest Students

In addition to prize money awarded to the 4 winners each year, AVMHS has a long-standing tradition of providing a book or other item to all veterinary students who enter the Smithcors Veterinary Student History Essay Contest. This is a gesture of our appreciation and recognition of their effort. This past summer, copies of *The Age of the Horse: An Equine Journey Through Human History* by Susanna Forrest were distributed by Dr. Russell Currier to the 15 students who entered the 2019 contest.



For each of the 27 2020 essayists, a copy of *War Animals: The Unsung Heroes of World War II* by Robin Hutton, bestselling author of *Sgt. Reckless America's War Horse*, is being procured and distributed as well. This book "tells the heart-warming stories of the dogs, horses, mules, pigeons-and even one cat-who did their bit for the war effort.....Many of these gallant animals are recipients of the prestigious Dickin Medal, the "Animals' Victoria Cross.""

In each book, Dr. Russell Currier includes a bookplate customized with the student's name.

We urge all veterinary students who have a small inkling of interest in the history of their profession and veterinary medicine to consider researching, writing and submitting an essay. They remain eligible to enter during all 4 years. Ideally, we would like to have representation from every veterinary colleges in the US, Canada and West Indies. Please help committee chair Dr. Jessica Zeiger (jzeigervet@gmail.com) get the word out to prospective essayists.

AVMHS Bylaws Review

As announced at the fall Board meeting in early September, President Zbig Wojcinski proposed reviewing the Society's bylaws this year. The current

version of these operating guidelines was adopted at the annual meeting in New Orleans in July 1999 and have not been comprehensively reviewed and/or updated since. Thus, it seemed timely to review them now.

For this purpose, President Wojcinski convened a small working group. Board member Dr. John de Jong who has had recent experience reviewing bylaws for the AVMA and World Small Animal Veterinary Association joined Zbig in this process along with Susanne Whitaker as Secretary/Treasurer.

After several months of work and 3 zoom conferences, a draft accompanied by the 1999 version [see <https://www.avmhs.org/bylaws>] was presented to Board members on December 12 to allow sufficient time for gathering comments and suggestions in advance. The revised bylaws draft will be the primary topic for the next Board meeting via a Zoom videoconference to be held on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

After review and approval by the Board, the proposed updated bylaws will be presented to the membership for additional discussion and voting upon at the next annual meeting this coming summer.

In Memoria – Drs. Pritchard and Marshak

We are saddened by the recent passing of two of our members who are emeritus veterinary college deans and respected senior members of the profession.



*Dr. William R.
"Bill" Pritchard
(1924-2020) of
Davis, California,
age 95.*



*Dr. Robert R. "Bob"
Marshak
(1923-2020) of
Newtown Square,
Pennsylvania, age 97.*

---Dr. William R. Pritchard

Dr. Pritchard graduated in 1946 with a veterinary degree from Kansas State University, a doctorate in 1953 from the University of Minnesota, and a law degree from the University of Indiana in 1957. He was a science adviser

to two U.S. presidents and a veterinary college dean whose congressional testimony secured federal funding for veterinary education and teaching hospitals.

His vision and leadership are credited with making UC-Davis a model for American and Canadian veterinary schools. Dr. Pritchard was appointed to President Lyndon Johnson's Science Advisory Committee Panel on the World Food Supply, chaired the Scientific and Cultural Exchange Mission to the USSR in 1967, and served on President Richard Nixon's Science Advisory Committee Panel on Biological and Medical Science.

Several years ago, Dr. Pritchard thoughtfully chronicled many of the personal and professional experiences that shaped his life from boyhood to his 90s. They can be found in his 298-page book, *Memoirs of the Luckiest Man in the World and Musings on This and That*. (Davis, CA: 12 Silos Press, 2016).

Additional biographic information can be found at:
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sacbee/obituary.aspx?n=william-roy-pritchard&pid=197022460>

<https://www.avma.org/javma-news/2020-12-15/dean-pritchard-led-uc-davis-veterinary-school-greatness>

---Dr. Robert R. Marshak

Dr. Marshak earned his veterinary degree from Cornell University in 1945. His brilliance and innovation were palpable throughout his career, beginning as a dairy practitioner to dean of the U Penn School of Veterinary Medicine (1973 to 1987). During his tenure he remade the curriculum to focus on clinical veterinary medicine to more closely align it with the approach taken in medical schools. He pioneered both the VMD-PhD program and the clinical veterinary specialties in response to the evolving need for advanced levels of competency. Dr. Marshak was a charter diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and served as president in 1975. He served on the editorial boards of several journals, including the *American Journal of Veterinary Research*, *Journal of the American Veterinary Radiology Society*, and *Cornell Veterinarian*.

Additional biographical information can be found at:
<https://www.vet.upenn.edu/about/who-we-are/dr.-robert-marshak-in-memoriam>

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/news/20201026/remembering-robert-r-marshak-dvm-45-former-dean-university-pennsylvania-school-veterinary-medicine>

Dr. Born's Vintage Veterinary Item

Dr. Fred Born (fjorn@att.net) has again issued a challenge to explain the background of this framed certificate, including the period when it would have been displayed in a veterinarian's office. See page 6 for an explanation.

"Narrative Medicine – What Is It?"

On December 9, 2020, AVMHS Past President Dr. Russ Currier reported attending an excellent presentation via Zoom hosted by the University of Iowa's Emeritus Faculty Council. Carol Scott-Connor, MD, PhD, MBA, who is Professor and Chair Emerita of Surgery University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, spoke about "Narrative Medicine: What Is It?" Because Russ was not previously aware of this new field and history involves storytelling about past events, activities, and people, he feels Society members may be interested.

The lecture announcement stated: "Story and the healing process intersect in the relatively-new discipline of Narrative Medicine, a branch of the medical humanities. While physicians, nurses, and patients have always written about their experiences, Narrative Medicine uses

specific techniques to heal, teach empathy, and help participants process difficult experiences....



While continuing to edit revisions of her surgical textbooks and to teach students and residents, she devotes an increasing amount of time to creative writing. Her first book of short stories, *A Few Small Moments*, explores the intersection between surgeon and patient.

This 1-hour lecture was recorded and can be viewed from a link on the Emeritus Faculty Council website at <https://emeritus-faculty.uiowa.edu/> Click on the EFC Lecture Series tab to connect at <https://emeritus-faculty.uiowa.edu/efc-lecture-series-2020-21>

Dr. Currier is not aware of any movement toward Narrative Medicine in veterinary medicine, but leaves the door open to ways compiling stories might benefit client relations, veterinary students, the wellbeing of practicing veterinarians, and presentation of particular experiences for the future.

REMINDER: *All Creatures Great and Small*, the new 50th Anniversary television series, begins on most PBS stations on Sunday, January 10, 2021.

"James Herriot's adventures as a veterinarian in 1930s Yorkshire get a glorious new adaptation in *All Creatures Great and Small*, a seven-part series based on his beloved books. See the highly-anticipated premiere Sundays, January 10 – February 21, 2021 on MASTERPIECE on PBS. Also, *All Creatures Great and Small* has been renewed for a second season!"

Meeting and Event Calendar 2021

January 21	AVMHS Board Meeting
tba	Fort Ord Station Vet Hosp videoconference
April 15	Student History Essay Contest Deadline
tba	AVMHS 44th Annual Meeting, Minneapolis or virtual conference

2022

April 15	Student History Essay Contest Deadline
tba	World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine 45th International Congress

New AVMHS Members (as of Jan 5)

We are pleased to welcome:

Alice H. Allen (*East Ryegate, VT*)
 Alex M. Gentile, DVM (*Highland, MI*)
 Adam Krantz (*Agoura Hills, CA*)
 Haley Oates, DVM (*Highland, MI*)
 Bennett Porter III, DVM (*Edina, MN*)
 Cynthia Sloan, DVM (*Alexandria, VA*)
 Janet Wilson, DVM (*Clutier, IA*)

New Registry of Heritage Veterinary Practices

We are pleased to welcome the following new Registry practices:

Baker Animal Hospital/Hôpital Vétérinaire Baker (*Montreal, Quebec, Canada*) Estab. 1866 by Duncan McEachran
<http://bakeranimalhospital.com/about-us/>
Cedarburg Veterinary Clinic (*Cedarburg, WI*) Estab. 1883
Coffee Memorial Animal Clinic (*La Center, KY*) Estab. 1919
Merrick Animal Hospital (*Brookfield, IL*) Estab. 1934
Westgate Pet Clinic (*Minneapolis, MN*) Estab. 1858 by Thomas Portier

New Books

Antin, Evan and Jana Murphy. *World Wild Vet: Encounters in the Animal Kingdom*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2020. 237 pgs. ISBN: 9781250314482

Driscoll, Charles E. *John Jay Terrell, MD: Civil War Doctor to Man and Horse*. Lynchburg, VA: Warwick House, 2020. 153 pgs. ISBN: 9781734969405
 "...This is an intimate look at a 'forgotten son' who was a contributor to human and veterinary medicine during the Civil War years...."

Freeberg, Ernest. *A Traitor to His Species: Henry Bergh and the Birth of the Animal Rights Movement*. New York: Basic Books, 2020. 322 pgs. ISBN: 9780465093861

From an award-winning historian, the outlandish story of the man who gave rights to animals. In Gilded Age America, people and animals lived cheek-by-jowl in environments that were dirty and dangerous to man and beast alike. The industrial city brought suffering, but it also inspired a compassion for animals that fueled a controversial anti-cruelty movement....

Keene, Bruce. *Memoirs of Doctor Dog*. Chicago: HigherLife Publishing, 2020. 51 pgs. ISBN: 1951492463 9781951492465

Long, Justin B. *More Adventures of the Horse Doctor's Husband*. Newberry, FL: Springhill Media, 2020. 273 pgs. ISBN: 9781948169271



Lowes, Janey. *Janey the Vet: Saving Sri Lanka's Street Dogs*. London: Michael O'Mara Books Limited, 2020. 256 pgs. ISBN: 9781789291995

Luckett, Matthew S. *Never Caught Twice: Horse Stealing in Western Nebraska*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2020, 341 pgs. ISBN: 9781496205148

MacKinney, Loren and Thomas Herndon. *Medical Illustrations in Medieval Manuscripts*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2020, c1965. 284 pgs. ISBN: 9780520351820
 Chapter XIII. Veterinary medicine.

Nancy, Susan. *Rodeo: An Animal History*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2020. 294 pgs. ISBN: 9780806165028

Paskin, Roger and Kenn Pearce. *The Vet Who Smelled Funny: Around the World with an Itinerant Vet*. [Adelaide, South Australia?]: Roger Paskin, Gepps Cross, South Australia: Reflex Adelaide Digital, 2020. 90 pgs. ISBN: 9781864771268

Rea, Charlotte. *Animal Matters: Diary of an Inner City Vet*. London: Coronet, 2020. 245 pgs. ISBN: 9781473694699

Smith, Frederick. *History of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps 1796-1919*. [reprint] [S.l.]: Naval & Military Press, 2020. ISBN: 9781783317677

Weil, Keri. *Precarious Partners: Horses and Their Humans in Nineteenth-century France*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020. 236 pgs. ISBN: 9780226686400

ANSWER: Dr. Born's Vintage Item

This is an example of an annual inventory certificate dated June 19, 1934 and federal tax stamp used by Archie R. Madson, DVS from Mishicot, Wisconsin concerning the dispensing and inventory of narcotics and controlled substances. In the 1920s and 1930s as the result of the Harrison Narcotics Tax Act approved by an act of Congress on December 17, 1914, veterinarians were required to display a United States Internal Revenue Special Stamp (\$1.00) permit, which read: PRACTITIONER DISPENSING OPIUM, COCA LEAVES, ETC. This act was intended to regulate and tax the production, importation, and distribution of opiates and coca products. Compare this to the range of controlled and sophisticated substances that was available in the 1980s.

In association, veterinarians were also required to maintain an inventory record and certify their use of opium. The most common use at that time was for the treatment of colic in horses.

Further Reading:

Milks HJ. *Practical Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917; pp. 136-147. *Internet Archive*, <https://archive.org/details/cu31924000867634>

Stalheim OH. Flowers in the blood: opium and veterinary medicine. *J Am Vet Med Assoc*. 1990 Nov 15;197(10):1324-5.

* * *

Send news, comments, and suggestions for the next *News & Comment* to either: Dr. Helen Wojcinski HelenWojcinski@gmail.com, or AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer Susanne Whitaker, 23 Wedgewood Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850-1064, phone 607-257-9248 or email skw2@cornell.edu or avmhs.info@gmail.com.

"The farther backward you look, the farther forward you are likely to see."

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Contents of Recent Veterinary History Journal Issues

Copies of articles may be obtained through interlibrary loan services provided by your local college or public library, or from the AVMHS Secretary-Treasurer if unavailable from other sources.

Recent Journal Articles & Chapters Related to the History of Veterinary Medicine

Aubert N, Brachet-Botineau M, de Olivera Preto GE, et al. History, extensive characterization and challenge of anti-tetanus serum from World War I: exciting remnants and deceived hopes: Centenarian IgGs lost their neutralization capacity. *Immunologic Research*. 2020 Feb;68(1):7-12. doi: 10.1007/s12026-020-09121-z.

Baker KS. Microbe hunting in the modern era: reflecting on a decade of microbial genomic epidemiology. *Current Biology*. 2020 Oct 5;30(19):R1124-R1130. doi: 10.1016/j.cub.2020.06.097. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7534602/>

Bestwick J, Unwin DM, Butler RJ, Purnell MA. Dietary diversity and evolution of the earliest flying vertebrates revealed by dental microwear texture analysis. *Nature Communications*. 2020 Oct 28;11(1):5293. doi: 10.1038/s41467-020-19022-2. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7595196/>

Charalambous R, Narayan E. A 29-year retrospective analysis of koala rescues in New South Wales, Australia. *PLoS One*. 2020 Oct 28;15(10):e0239182. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0239182. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7592758/>

Chessa D, Murgia M, Sias E, et al. Metagenomics and microscope revealed *T. trichiura* and other intestinal parasites in a cesspit of an Italian nineteenth century aristocratic palace. *Scientific Reports*. 2020 Jul 29;10(1):12656. doi: 10.1038/s41598-020-69497-8. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7391740/>

Cooney K. Historical perspective of euthanasia in veterinary medicine. *Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice*. 2020 May;50(3):489-502. doi: 10.1016/j.cvsm.2019.12.001.

Debré P. Épidémies: Leçons d'Histoire [Epidemics: lessons from History]. *Med Sci (Paris)*. 2020 Jun-Jul;36(6-7):642-646. French. doi: 10.1051/medsci/2020111. *Medecine/Sciences*, <https://www.medecinesciences.org/en/articles/medsci/abs/2020/06/msc200144/msc200144.html>

Dorman MJ, Domman D, Poklepovich T, et al. Genomics of the Argentinian cholera epidemic elucidate the contrasting dynamics of epidemic and endemic *Vibrio cholerae*. *Nature Communications*. 2020 Oct 1;11(1):4918. doi: 10.1038/s41467-020-18647-7. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7530988/>

Govindasamy K. Human brucellosis in South Africa: A review for medical practitioners. *South African Medical Journal*. 2020 Jul 7;110(7):646-651. doi: 10.7196/SAMJ.2020.v110i7.14538.

Griffin DK, Larkin DM, O'Connor RE. Time lapse: A glimpse into prehistoric genomics. *European Journal of Medical Genetics*. 2020 Feb;63(2):103640. doi: 10.1016/j.ejmg.2019.03.004. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7026692/>

Guellil M, Kersten O, Namouchi A, et al. A genomic and historical synthesis of plague in 18th century Eurasia. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences U S A*. 2020 Nov 10;117(45):28328-28335. doi: 10.1073/pnas.2009677117. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7668095/>

Jones D, Helmreich S. A history of herd immunity. *Lancet*. 2020 Sep 19;396(10254):810-811. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31924-3. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7498207/>

hardori N, Stevaux C, Ripley K. Antibiotics: From the beginning to the future: Part 1. *Indian Journal of Pediatrics*. 2020 Jan;87(1):39-42. doi: 10.1007/s12098-019-03087-z.

Kupferschmidt K. The 'bat man' tackles COVID-19. *Science*. 2020 Oct 2;370(6512):20-21. doi: 10.1126/science.370.6512.20. PMID: 33004495.

Lovasik BP. The freemartin cattle and clinical transplantation: from the ancients to modern day. *Transplantation*. 2020 Aug;104(8):1537-1541. doi: 10.1097/TP.0000000000003103.

Martinez L, Verma R, Croda J, et al. Detection, survival and infectious potential of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in the environment: a review of the evidence and epidemiological implications. *European Respiratory Journal*. 2019 Jun 27;53(6):1802302. doi: 10.1183/13993003.02302-2018. *PubMed Central*, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6753378/>

Vicentini CB, Contini C. Control measures of a 400-year-old plague epidemic: an example of past efficiency at controlling disease and similarities with current epidemics. *Le Infezione in Medicina*. 2020 Dec 1;28(4):621-633. *InfezMed*, https://www.infezmed.it/index.php/article?Anno=2020&numero=4&ArticoloDaVisualizzare=Vol_28_4_2020_621